

SCORE in Delaware. Also, I would like to point out that as he celebrates twenty years of volunteer service, Dr. Holmes is also celebrating his ninetieth birthday. The time and effort that Dr. Holmes has given to his fellow Delawareans is both commendable and much appreciated. He is certainly an inspiration to those around him. I am truly proud that he is a Delawarean.

IN RECOGNITION OF RENE F.  
RODRIGUEZ, M.D.

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 17, 2004*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest congratulations to a very dedicated physician, Dr. Rene F. Rodriguez, who has been devoted not only to his patients and the underserved, but also to the improvement of America's healthcare system by breaking barriers, improving access to medical services, treating all patients equally, and integrating Hispanic doctors and other Hispanic healthcare professionals to these efforts.

Dr. Rodriguez has been recognized as an excellent advocate for the underserved in America and has been the recipient of a very distinguished award, "The 2004 Freddie-Public Service Award".

He has been an enthusiastic and compassionate physician who has done admirable work throughout years of advocacy. His distinguished medical career spans years of commitment to public service and he has been a leader with numerous achievements.

He studied medicine at the University of Salamanca in Spain, and is licensed to practice medicine in several states in America. He was a Colonel in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, and retired after more than 35 years of service in the Military. While on active duty, he directed the Orthopedic Clinic at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. He was appointed to the Council on Graduate Medical Education of the Department of Health and Human Services, the President's Commission of the National Medal of Science, the Surgeon General's National Workshop on Hispanic-Latino Health Executive Planning Committee, the NIH Office of Minority Program Fact-Finding Team, the Hispanic Advisor Task Force to the U.S. Senate, and the Board of Scientific Counselors of the National Center for Health Statistics of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

He is a member of the American College of Surgeons and the American Medical Association, and is the Founder and President of the Interamerican College of Physicians and Surgeons, which is the largest and oldest organization of Hispanic doctors. He founded the National Hispanic Youth Initiative to encourage High School students to study careers in sciences and research, and has been the founder of medical journals for Spanish speaking doctors and patients, such as "Medico Interamericano", "Medico de Familia", and the book "Usted y su Medico". He is currently the Chief of the Orthopedic Section at the Veterans Medical Center in Miami, Florida. Please join me in recognizing Dr. Rodriguez for his outstanding accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAROL G.  
WHITESIDE

**HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 17, 2004*

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Carol G. Whiteside, an individual who has dedicated her life to public service at the local, state, national, and international levels. Her impressive career deserves recognition, and her years of dedicated service to her local community of Stanislaus County, the State of California, and our nation, warrants tremendous respect. Throughout her successful life, Carol has remained equally committed to her family. She is married to Superior Court Judge John G. Whiteside. Carol and John are the proud parents of two adult sons, Brian and Derek.

Carol began her career by earning a B.A. in Psychology from the University of California, Davis in 1964. Dedicated to her education, she pursued postgraduate studies at Golden Gate College in San Francisco and continued her studies abroad through the University of Southern California in Ramstein, Germany. She entered the business world as a Personnel Manager for Emporium Capwell Company in Santa Rosa, California in 1964, but it was not long before returning to Germany, this time to serve as an Education Counselor at the Army Education Center in Landstuhl.

By the mid-1970's Carol returned to Modesto, California and began to build what would become one of the most reputable careers in public service known to our community. For the past three decades, Carol Whiteside has held various positions with the City of Modesto and the State of California. In all arenas of service, and with tremendous commitment, Carol rose through the ranks of public office. She began her service in the City of Modesto in 1979 as a Modesto City School Board Trustee, and by 1987 she was elected the City's Mayor, having served as Modesto City School Board President, and as a member of the Modesto City Council before her Mayoral victory.

Continuing to pursue greater and grander opportunities, Carol moved on to California State Government in 1991, being appointed to the position of Assistant Secretary of the Intergovernmental Relations, Resources Agency where she specialized in resource conservation, land use and growth management issues. Within two years, she became the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs for California Governor Pete Wilson on issues of land use, finance, restructuring and economic development.

Throughout the years, Carol has also been extremely involved and held numerous positions with countless associations, boards, organizations, political committees and international entities. She has served as Chairperson for committees within the League of California Cities, U.S. Conference of Mayors, and the National League of Cities. Over the last twenty years, Carol has been involved in the National Women's Political Caucus, as well as several other political committees at the state and national level.

In addition to her tremendous achievements, Carol has found time to serve as a Board Member for more than 15 groups which in-

clude the United Way of Stanislaus County, the American Red Cross, High Speed Rail Authority, California Center for Regional Leadership, and the Public Policy Institute of California.

It appears that there is no existing realm of public service that Carol Whiteside has not touched. Her career is not limited to the San Joaquin Valley, California, or the United States. Since Carol resided in Landstuhl, Germany in 1972, she has remained actively involved abroad. Her international endeavors have taken her to Poland, Ukraine, the Baltic States, Morocco, and Korea.

It is without question that Carol Whiteside is a remarkable individual, professional businesswoman, and motivated entrepreneur, characteristics that were most recently demonstrated by her latest accomplishment. Today, Carol is the President of the Great Valley Center, an organization she founded in August 1997. This organization's primary focus is to promote the economic, social and environmental well-being of California's Central Valley. Under Carol's leadership and guidance, the Great Valley Center has elevated the region's identity throughout our state and nation.

Carol's work ethic, professionalism, and dedication have earned her many honors throughout the years, which include the 1990 Soroptimist Woman of Distinction in International Relations, the California State Assembly Woman of the Year 1991 for the 27th Assembly District, the Civic Entrepreneur of the Year in 2002, and the 2004 Excellence in Public Service Award. Most recently, the American Legion Post 74 honored Carol by naming her the 2004 Woman of the Year.

This recognition that I am offering today before the House of Representatives for Carol Whiteside is clearly deserved, and well overdue. She is an invaluable member of the community, an exemplary civil servant, and an outstanding human being who will leave behind a legacy to be admired for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my fellow colleagues join me in honoring Carol G. Whiteside for her many years of dedication to public service, for her countless contributions to the economic vitality of the San Joaquin Valley, and for her continued commitment to a brighter and more prosperous tomorrow. I am most certainly honored to call her my friend, and it is my pleasure to recognize all of her accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF LAURA MUÑOZ-  
VELAZQUEZ

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 17, 2004*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Laura Muñoz-Velazquez, who was named (LULAC) League of United and Latin American Citizens Woman of the Year. Mrs. Muñoz-Velazquez is one of several outstanding women who were nominated for this prestigious award.

Mrs. Muñoz-Velazquez was born in Colusa, California to a family of farm workers. Her parents, Juanita Castañon Muñoz and Lucas Placencia Muñoz, always stressed the importance of education and encouraged her to go to college. Laura heeded her parents, and in 1973, graduated from California State University Chico with a Bachelor of Arts degree in